

## Patent claims

*We claim:*

1. Use of nanoscalar water soluble  $\beta$ -(1,3) glucans, which are substantially  
5 free from  $\beta$ -(1,6) linkages and have particle diameters in the area of 10 to 300 nm,  
for producing cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical preparations.
2. Use according to claim 1, ~~characterised by that~~ *wherein* glucans based on yeasts  
of the family *Saccharomyces* are used.
- 10 3. Use according to ~~the claims 1 and/or 2, characterised by that~~ *wherein* glucans are  
used which have been obtained by contacting glucans with  $\beta$ -(1,3) and  $\beta$ -(1,6)  
linkages in such a way with  $\beta$ -(1,6) glucanases that practically all  $\beta$ -(1,6) linkages  
are loosened, wherafter the lysis products are brought into a nanoscalar form.
- 15 4. Use according to claim 3, ~~characterised by that~~ *wherein* glucans are used which  
have been treated with glucanases based on *Trichoderma harzianum*.
5. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 4, characterised by that~~ *wherein*  
20 nano particles which are embedded in a protecting colloid are used.
6. Use according to claim 5, ~~characterised by that~~ *wherein* polyvinyl alcohol or  
polyethyten glycol are used as protecting colloid.
- 25 7. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 6, characterised by that~~ *wherein*  
the glucans are used in amounts of 0,1 to 5 % by weight, based on the  
preparations.
8. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 7, characterised by that~~ *wherein*  
30 the glucans are used for manufacture of hair care agents.
9. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 7, characterised by that~~ *wherein*  
the glucans are used for manufacture of skin care and sun protecting agents.

09936747-034506